

## Local scam attempt foiled

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Russ Hamilton of Wickenburg was almost caught up in a scam, but because he was cautious, the perpetrator is being sought by law enforcement.

Hamilton's physician phoned a prescription to Wickenburg's Safeway Pharmacy, and while he waited at home for news that it was ready, his cell phone rang. A young man told him that his medication was not available at the Wickenburg store and would have to be ordered directly from Florida. Hamilton was informed he'd have to provide his credit card number to secure the medication; however he told the young man he never gave out that number over the phone; that he'd have to send a bill. When the caller insisted a credit card was required, Hamilton hung up and phoned Safeway.

It turned out his prescription was ready at the local store, and the phone call was a scam. Hamilton stated Safeway didn't have his cell phone number, and that he could hear other voices in the background, both men and women, during the scam call.

The whole story, including the phone number used by the caller, was turned over to Attorney General Terry Goddard's satellite office at the Wickenburg CAP Office. In addition, the district manager for Safeway called so he could alert the chain's security people. How Hamilton's prescription and cell phone number were obtained by the scammer remains unknown.

Once again, the public is reminded to never give out personal information, especially credit card numbers or bank account information, over the phone unless you have initiated the call. Report any suspicious telephone calls or behavior.